

REMARKS

Status of Claims

Claims 1 – 15, 18 – 32, and 35 – 49 are pending, with claims 1, 22, 38, 39, 43, and 48 being independent. Initially, Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 1 – 15, 19 – 32, and 36 – 49 are allowable. With regard to the outstanding objections and rejections, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw these objections and rejections in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Specification

The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter, specifically claims 12, 13, 29, and 30. Without conceding the propriety of the objection, paragraph [0027] of the specification has been amended merely to pursue an early allowance to recite that the solutions contain small amounts of the first component in the liquid component, particularly in the range of 0.03 to 1% by weight, preferably less than about 0.5% by weight, and even more preferably less than about 0.1% by weight. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that this objection has been obviated and thus, respectfully request that the objection be withdrawn.

Claims Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 18 and 35 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. In particular, claims 18 and 35 have been rejected for their recitation of “an” outlet. Without conceding the propriety of the rejection, claims 18 and 35 have been amended to recite the outlet thus referring to the outlet as recited in the independent claims from which they depend. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection has been obviated and thus, respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn.

Conclusion

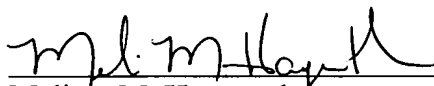
Without conceding the propriety of the rejections, the specification and claims 18 and 35 have been amended, as provided above, to even more clearly recite and distinctly claim Applicants' invention and to pursue an early allowance. Applicants note that the

title of the application also has been amended to more specifically describe the subject matter of the presently claimed invention.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the claims and allowance of the subject application is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number, if it is believed that prosecution of this application may be assisted thereby.

Respectfully submitted,

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